Fall 2016 Rice University – Lifetime Physical Activity Program

Yoga LPAP 170 002 (10614)

YOGA Course Outline/Syllabus

Instructor: Jennifer Buergermeister, MA, C Ht, RYT, DD

Email: jenny.buergermeister@rice.edu and cc jbuergermeister@icloud.com

Phone: 713-539-7418 Class time: Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:15 – 2:05 p.m.

Location: MPR3

Course description: This course provides a solid foundation in the principals of yoga theory and practice. By incorporating traditional philosophy, physical poses (asana) and breath control (pranayama), this class helps you to discover vitality, flexibility and strength within yourself. We will also identify, understand and cope with sources of stress and journey through several modalities that explore our response to stress and encourage yoga as an exercise/relaxation program. You will practice yoga and meditation, read a book, and reflect in this course. The book we are reading this semester is **I am That: Talks with Sri Nisargadatta Maharaja.** The final assignment is to write a reflection of 3-5 pages (reflection) due by last day of class and uploaded to Owlspace.

Course objectives: Upon completion of the course, the student will have an understanding of the negative effects of stress on the body and how relaxation techniques and yoga can tone, enhance, and harmonize the physical and emotional bodies to achieve homeostasis and wellbeing. Students will gain knowledge of the history and theory of yoga philosophy and practice. Ultimately, students will understand how to choose healthy methods of exercise and relaxation that can serve as antidotes to the negative effects of stress both in college and beyond graduation and be used as tools for life.

Evaluation Procedures:

Attendance and Participation - coming and participating in class. 150 points

Written Assignments & Reflection - journal and write a 3-5 page paper that either comes from your journal, a book that has a life message or an interview of someone you admire. 150 points

Grading Scale:

Points Grade 270-300 A 240-269 B 210-239 C 180-209 D >180 F

The attendance policy for LPAP courses will be as follows:

Students are expected to attend all class sessions and to actively participate while in attendance. During the course of the semester, students are allowed one “free” absence. Should a student miss an additional class, she/he will need to arrange to make up the missed class at a time and place that is agreed upon by both the

student and the instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate conversation with the instructor to discuss

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the make-up, and an agreement must be reached between the within two weeks of the absence. If a student fails to make up a missed second class, his/her final grade will drop by one grade letter.

Please note, students will not be allowed to make up more than one class. Three total absences, including those that were made up and no matter their circumstance, will result in a failing grade for the course.

Honor Code Violations:

All students are expected to uphold their pledge to the Rice Honor Code. Any student suspected of cheating on an exam or written assignment will be reported to the Chair of the Honor Council, and an investigation will ensue. Any questions that you may have about what constitutes an honor code violation in this class can be directed to the instructor.

ADA Statement:

This instructor, in conjunction with Rice University, is committed to upholding and maintaining all aspects of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you are a student with a disability and wish to request accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services Office in the Ley Student Center. Any information regarding your disability will remain confidential. Because many accommodations require early planning, requests for accommodations should be made as early as possible. Any requests for accommodations will be reviewed in a timely manner to determine their appropriateness to this setting.

Topics to be covered include, but are not limited to:

- Introduction to Types of Stress + Effects Stress Assessment, Guided Meditation - What is Yoga?
- Building a Personal Practice
- Meditation Techniques and Pranayam
- Intro to the Basics of Neuroscience
- Heart Coherence/Biofeedback
- Qi Gong and Energetic Systems/Anatomy
- Martial Asana
- Ayurveda, History of Eastern Medicine and Healthy Choices
- Why Silence?
- And Intro to Rootism (Jenny’s Theory of Life) – In a Nutshell